

## **Appendix G: Dallas News, 5/06/16**

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2016/05/06/rep-will-hurd-keeping-distance-from-donald-trump-pushing-back-against-pete-gallego-attack-ads>

### **Rep. Will Hurd keeping distance from Donald Trump, pushing back against Pete Gallego attack ads**

Updated: This post was updated at 1:40 p.m. with additional context and statements from Hurd.

WASHINGTON -- One-term Republican Rep. Will Hurd is keeping his distance from Donald Trump and pushing back against an onslaught of Democratic efforts to tie him to the presumptive nominee.

In one of the most closely watched races in the country, Hurd, of San Antonio, is facing a rematch with former Rep. Pete Gallego, a Democrat he bested for the 23rd Congressional District seat in 2014.

This week, the Gallego camp unveiled a new online ad in which it accused Hurd of “ducking and dodging” Trump’s controversial remarks on women, minorities, the disabled and more. Hurd, who has said little publicly about the New York businessman, made clear this week that he’s not on board with Trump’s sentiments.

“Until the presumptive nominee shows he can respect women and minorities and presents a clear plan to protect our homeland, I am going to reserve my endorsement,” Hurd said in a provided statement on Friday. “I hope in the next seven months he can show this because I am not supporting Hillary Clinton.”

Democrats nationwide, and in Texas, in particular, are seeking to capitalize on Trump’s controversial comments in order to win back coveted congressional seats this fall.

Texas Democrats have already attempted to portray Hurd, a former CIA officer, as “worse” than Trump when it comes to policies affecting the diverse southern district.

The ad from the Gallego camp states that Hurd “couldn’t be bothered to stand up for women,” following a clip of Trump saying Fox News host Megyn Kelly had “blood coming out of her wherever” while asking him tough questions during a televised debate.

And after Trump’s description of some Mexican immigrants as rapists and criminals, “nothing but cricket sounds” came from Hurd, the ad continues.

“One would think that Rep. Hurd would speak out when his constituents are being berated, insulted and dragged through the mud on a regular basis by Donald Trump,” Gallego wrote in an opinion piece this week.

The Gallego video ends with a photoshopped image of Hurd wearing Trump's trademark "Make America Great Again" white baseball cap.

The attack was unveiled the same week that Trump became the GOP's presumptive nominee after Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Ohio Gov. John Kasich dropped out of the presidential race.

Almost immediately, the Hillary Clinton campaign unleashed a compilation of criticisms hurled at Trump by fellow Republicans.

Trump, whom Texas Democrats have called their "best ally" in state contests, has emerged as a wild card in the election, with Republicans and Democrats alike debating the impact that he could have on down ballot races.

"We don't know. We literally don't know," Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, said of Trump on April 15.

Rep. Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico, who heads the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, told reporters in Washington last week, "I don't think anyone truly knows what Donald Trump at the top of the ticket will mean across the rest of the country."

Hurd accused the Gallego camp of seizing upon the Trump issue in order "to promote fear and avoid talking about how Pete Gallego was a failure in Congress."

His campaign points out that -- unlike Gallego -- Hurd has seen two of his bills become law. Gallego, however, successfully sponsored amendments to legislation.

The Republican said his opponent "blindly supported Barack Obama and all of his policies" and now "blindly supports a candidate who is under investigation by the FBI," referencing the FBI investigation into the use and security of Clinton's private email server.

"I'm willing to go against some in my own party for what I think is best for America and Texas," Hurd said. "Is my opponent willing to do the same?"

Hurd, an African-American representing a predominantly Hispanic district, is so far better funded than his Democratic rival.

He's raised about \$2.1 million for his 2016 re-election bid, and has nearly \$1.4 million in cash on hand, according to the March 31 report filed with the Federal Election Commission.

Gallego has raised less than half of that -- at \$970,000 -- with about \$620,000 in cash on hand.

## **Appendix H: El Paso Times, 08/03/16**

<http://www.elpasotimes.com/story/22.0/2016/08/03/hurd-slams-but-still-might-vote-trump/875528>

### **Hurd slams, but still might vote for Trump**

Marty Schladen, El Paso Times 4:13 p.m. MDT August 3, 2016

AUSTIN — Donald Trump's controversial statements seem to be coming at a quickening pace, putting the Republican incumbent in Texas' only competitive congressional district in an ever tighter squeeze.

U.S. Rep. Will Hurd on Tuesday slammed the Republican nominee again, but he continued to leave room for Trump to redeem himself.

"That's why my position is where it is," Hurd said. "I haven't endorsed the guy because until he has a clear national security plan, until he shows he can respect minorities and women, I'm going to withhold that. I'm not going to support (Democratic nominee) Hillary Clinton, but there are 100 days left until the election for him to convince me and the American people."

Trump's place at the top of the Republican ticket is excruciating for Hurd, said Mark Jones, a Rice University political scientist.

The first term Republican represents a district that runs all the way from San Antonio into El Paso County. It's so evenly split between the parties that it's switched in each election since 2010, with Democrats winning in presidential years and Republicans winning in midterms.

Now Hurd is trying to win in a presidential year in a district that is 70 percent Hispanic on a ticket with Trump, who kicked off his campaign calling Mexican immigrants criminals and "rapists."

"It without question puts (Hurd) in a difficult position," Jones said. "In 2014, (Texas) Gov. Greg Abbott was going to be a big boost for him. In this election Trump is going to be a drag. He starts off with a lodestone around his neck."

Hurd's challenger, former U.S. Rep. Pete Gallego, faces challenges of his own because Hillary Clinton is running atop the Democratic ticket, Jones said.

Hurd has criticized Gallego's support of Clinton, particularly her handling of classified information on a private server, which Jones said adds to doubts that many Anglo voters in the district have about her trustworthiness.

But even though Clinton is the second-most unpopular major-party nominee since 1976, the demographics of Congressional District 23 mean that Trump — the most unpopular nominee

since 1976 — is even more of a drag on Hurd, Jones said. In other words, Clinton is pushing some voters to Hurd, but Trump seems to be pushing even more to Gallego.

"Clinton's unpopularity keeps Gallego from taking full advantage of Trump's even greater unpopularity," Jones said.

Last week, Trump made Hurd's political life even more difficult.

While the Democratic National Convention was underway, the Republican presidential nominee called on Russia to "find" and release more than 30,000 of Clinton's emails that were deleted from a private server that also contained official, classified information from when she was secretary of state.

"Finding" such emails would amount to illegal espionage on the part of a hostile government that already is suspected of hacking into the Democratic National Committee's email system, many experts said.

Then, after the convention ended, Trump got into an ongoing spat with the family of Capt. Humayun Khan, who died in combat in Iraq 12 years ago.

On the last night of the convention, Khan's father, a Muslim lawyer who emigrated from Pakistan, accused Trump of never having read the Constitution. He also said Trump had "sacrificed nothing and no one" for his country.

Trump, who at various times has called for a temporary ban on Muslim immigration, said Khizr Khan had "no right" to attack him. The real estate developer also appeared to draw an equivalence between sacrifices he'd made in his business career and the sacrifices Khizr and Ghazala Khan had made as Gold Star parents.

Hurd, a former CIA officer who has served in war zones, joined the chorus of condemnation Tuesday.

"I've had the honor of serving alongside many American heroes from all types of religious backgrounds and beliefs," he said. "No one should ever question their service or their sacrifice on behalf of a great nation. My most sincere respect and deepest gratitude go out to the entire Khan family."

Trump "should be like the rest of Americans and respect the sacrifice that the Khan family has made on behalf of this nation," Hurd said

Gallego said it's not enough for Hurd to criticize what Trump says while holding out the possibility that he still might vote for him.

"Donald Trump is a danger to our country and our families and our values," Gallego said. Hurd "didn't step up when Mr. Trump denigrated Mexican-Americans, denigrated women, people

with handicaps or (U.S. Sen.) John McCain” — the Arizona Republican who spent five years in a North Vietnamese prisoner-of-war camp.

Gallego is making a moral argument against Trump’s objectionable statements, but Hurd has practical politics to consider, Jones said. This was always going to be a difficult year for the incumbent, but it likely would be impossible if Hurd were to come out and say he’s not voting for Trump, who has the support of a great majority of Republican voters, Jones said.

“You still have to mobilize the Republican base to come out and support you,” Jones said.

Even if Hurd were to decide that Trump is leading the party to unmitigated disaster in 2016, there could be long-term consequences for abandoning him, Jones said. Any chance of a 2018 rematch would be harmed if Texas Republicans saw Hurd as disloyal, he said.

Trump’s apparent call for the Russians to hack into Clinton’s emails seems to have particularly outraged Hurd, who worked in cybersecurity during his service with the CIA.

He said his work in Afghanistan made him familiar with the online practices of Russian spy agencies. While it’s still not known whether they hacked Democratic National Committee emails with an eye toward influencing the American election, it’s certainly possible, Hurd said.

“Do the Russians have the capability to do such a thing? Yes,” he said. “Do they have the motivation to do such a thing? Yes. Should we be surprised that the Russians have done something like this? Absolutely not.”

Gallego said that Trump’s call for the Russians to hack Clinton “borders on treason.”

Hurd responded by criticizing both Trump and Clinton, whom Gallego supports.

“Under no circumstances should a nominee of a major party ever invite espionage on another candidate — just like a major party nominee should never believe they’re above the law and blatantly misuse classified information,” Hurd said.

He was referring to FBI Director James Comey’s statement last month that Clinton had improperly handled classified information on her private server. Comey said, however, that it didn’t rise to the level of a prosecutable offense.

Marty Schladen can be reached at 512-479-6606; [mschladen@elpasotimes.com](mailto:mschladen@elpasotimes.com); [@martyschladen](https://twitter.com/martyschladen) on Twitter.

**TX23 T01**  
**Side-by-Side**

Claim	Backup
<p><b>DONALD TRUMP SOT:</b> <b>I will build a great, great wall on our southern border.</b></p> <p><i>Image: Donald Trump SOT from his announcement speech:</i> <a href="http://time.com/3923128/donald-trump-announcement-speech/">http://time.com/3923128/donald-trump-announcement-speech/</a></p>	<p><b>Donald Trump Supports A Border Wall</b></p> <p>“I would build a great wall, and nobody builds walls better than me, believe me, and I’ll build them very inexpensively, I will build a great, great wall on our southern border. And I will have Mexico pay for that wall.” [Time, 6/16/15]</p> <p><i>See Appendix A</i></p>
<p><b>WILL HURD SOT:</b> <b>A wall absolutely makes sense.</b></p> <p><i>Image: Cut to video of Will Hurd on MSNBC:</i> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7BdJLsg1GgI&amp;feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7BdJLsg1GgI&amp;feature=youtu.be</a></p>	<p><b>Hurd Said In Heavily Populated Areas “A Wall Absolutely Makes Sense.”</b></p> <p>“Scarborough: Right, so why is it that though that Republican candidates- remember John McCain, turns to the camera and goes "Build the dang wall." Why do they all resort to that? Hurd: Well, you need a wall in some places, alright? In heavily populated areas, a wall absolutely makes sense. A wall is just one more tool in your toolkit in order to solve the problem.” [MSNBC, 9/09/15]</p> <p><i>See Appendix B</i></p>
<p><b>NARRATOR:</b> <b>And that’s not all--</b></p>	<p><b>New York Times Headline: “Donald Trump Criticizes Muslim Family of Slain U.S. Soldier, Drawing Ire.”</b> [New York Times, 7/30/16]</p>

**When Donald Trump insulted John McCain's service and a Gold Star Family, Will Hurd said he might vote for him.**

TITLE: Trump Criticizes Family of Slain Soldier  
New York Times, 7/30/16

**Hurd even voted to underfund veterans' programs by more than a billion dollars – putting health care and job training at risk.**

**All to put his party first**

*Image: Images of Will Hurd and Donald Trump together.*

TITLE: Will Hurd

TITLE: Underfunded veteran job training & health care

TITLE: Risking health care & job training

Citation: HR 2029, Vote #193, 4/30/15

*See Appendix C*

### **United States Army: "The Term Gold Star Family" Refers To The Family Of Fallen Soldiers**

"The term Gold Star family is a modern reference that comes from the Service Flag. These flags/banners were first flown by families during World War I. The flag included a blue star for every immediate family member serving in the armed forces of the United States, during any period of war or hostilities in which the armed forces of the United States were engaged. If that loved one died, the blue star was replaced by a gold star. This allowed members of the community to know the price that the family had paid in the cause of freedom. ... Today, the nation recognizes the sacrifice that all Gold Star Family members make when a father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, or other loved one dies in service to the nation. The strength of our nation is our Army. The strength of our Army is our Soldiers. The strength of our Soldiers is our families. The Army recognizes that no one has given more for the nation than the families of the fallen." [United States Army Website, accessed 8/19/16]

*See Appendix D*

### **TX-23: Hurd Reserved Endorsement Until Trump Showed Respect to Women**

In May 2016, Hurd said, "Until the presumptive nominee shows he can respect women and minorities and presents a clear plan to protect our homeland, I am going to reserve my endorsement. I hope in the next seven months he can show

this because I am not supporting Hillary Clinton.” [*Dallas News*, 5/09/16]

**Headline: “Hurd Slams, but Still Might Vote for Trump”**

In August 2016, the *El Paso Times* reported, Hurd “slammed the Republican nominee again, but he continued to leave room for Trump to redeem himself.” [*El Paso Times*, 08/03/16]

**Voted For MilCon-VA Appropriations Bill That Underfunded VA By More Than \$1 Billion, Impacting 70,000 Veterans.**

In April 2015, Hurd voted for legislation that would underfund the VA and impact veterans’ health care, medical research, education, and cemeteries. “Addressing the Democrats at a closed-door caucus meeting in the Capitol Wednesday, VA Secretary Robert McDonald warned the lawmakers that the GOP’s \$77 billion bill funding the department and military construction projects in fiscal 2016 falls short of the resources needed to provide health and other services to the nation’s veterans. Relaying McDonald’s message, Rep. Xavier Becerra (Calif.), chairman of the Democratic Caucus, said the GOP’s bill would scale back health benefits for roughly 70,000 veterans, while also denying funds for medical research, education and veterans’ cemeteries ... Passed with bipartisan support by the House Appropriations Committee last week, the bill provides a 5.6 percent increase for the VA over 2015 levels, but falls more than \$1 billion shy of the figure President Obama had included in his 2016 budget request.” The bill passed 225 to



	<p>163. [HR 2029, <del>Vote #192</del>, 4/30/15; The Hill, <del>4/29/15</del>]</p> <p><i>See Appendix E, F</i></p>
<p><b>Will Hurd: sided with Donald Trump and his political party; hurting Texas families.</b></p> <p>TITLE: Will Hurd TITLE: Putting politics ahead of Texas families</p>	
<p><b>House Majority PAC is responsible for the content of this advertising.</b></p> <p>TITLE: Paid for by House Majority PAC, thehousemajoritypac.com. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. House Majority PAC is responsible for the content of this advertising.</p>	